

Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, CM

SUBJECT: FOREIGN STUDENT PROGRAM

REF: YOAUNDE 4673

1. CU/AF OFFICERS HAVE DISCUSSED STUDENT PROGRAM WITH INSPECTOR, WHO MORE FULLY DESCRIBED AMBASSADOR/MONGWA EXCHANGE. WE NOW UNDERSTAND GURC VIEWS INTERPRETER/TRANSLATOR PROGRAM AS A MEANS OF DEVELOPING CONFERENCE INTERPRETER CAPABILITY. AS A RESULT, WE FULLY SUPPORT TWO YEAR EXTENSION OF INTERPRETER/TRANSLATOR PROGRAM. POST MAY WISH TO TRANSMIT FOLLOWING CLARIFICATIONS TO GURC TO ASSURE THAT ALL PARTIES ARE ON SAME WAVE LENGTH:
(A) PROGRAM WILL ONCE AGAIN REQUIRE INTERPRETATION AS WELL AS TRANSLATION CERTIFICATES IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE RETURN-EE'S IMPORTANT CONFERENCE INTERPRETER ROLE AT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. CU/AF WILL ALSO DESIGN SHORT PROGRAM WITH STATE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE INTERPRETERS TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH IN-DEPTH OBSERVATION AND CONSULTATION.
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(B) GURC SHOULD PROPOSE FIVE CANDIDATES, OF WHICH POST AND CU/AF GEORGETOWN WILL SELECT BEST TWO. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF POST ABLE TO INTERVIEW ALL.
(C). TWO INTERPRETER/TRANSLATOR GRANTS--WHICH WILL BE FROM 12 TO 24 MONTHS DURATION--WILL BE PROVIDED FOR BOTH 1977

AND 1978. POST MAY ALSO WISH TO SUGGEST THAT GURC BEGI
PLANNING FOR NEW DIRECTION FOR STUDENT PROGRAM TO
COMMENCE IN 1979.

2. ACCORDING TO DR. BOWEN OF GEORGETOWN, FOR CAMEROONIANS
EFFECTIVELY TO REPLACE EUROPEAN CONFERENCE INTERPRETERS,
THEIR QUALIFICATIONS MUST BE OF HIGHEST ORDER. IN
ADDITION, THEY SHOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY BILINGUAL TO BE
ABLE TO CONCENTRATE ON TECHNIQUE, RATHER THAN LEARNING
LANGUAGE, AT GEORGETOWN. THEREFORE, FRANCOPHONE CANDI-
DATES MUST HOLD CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY FROM UNIVERSIT
OF MICHIGAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEST WHILE ANGLOPHONES MUST
HOLD SIMILAR CERTIFICATE OF FRENCH COMPETENCE. BILINGUAL
DEGREE FROM UNIVERSITY OF YAOUNDE NOT SUFFICIENT.

3. CONCURRENTLY, CU/AF REQUESTS POST'S ASSISTANCE IN
ATTAINING ONE OF OUR LONG-RANGE PLANNING OBJECTIVES IN
THIS FIELD. IF FEASIBLE WE WOULD LIKE POST TO REQUEST
FROM GURC NOMINATION OF TWO MA-QUALIFIED BILINGUAL

LINGUISTS, THE BEST OF WHOM WOULD BE SELECTED TO STUDY FO
A PHD IN INTERPRETATION/TRANSLATION INSTRUCTION AND BE
TARGETED TO HEAD CAMEROON INTERPRETATION/TRANSLATION
INSTITUTE SCHEDULED TO OPEN IN 1979. BECAUSE THIS GRAN
INITIATED AT SPECIFIC REQUEST OF CU/AF, COSTS WOULD BE
REGIONALLY FUNDED.

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